

	US Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) - Direct Access	Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) Program
Implementing Agency	The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) of the U.S. Department of State	The Bureau of Consular Affairs of the U.S. Department of State
Agency Accepting Applications:	The International Organization for Migration (IOM), an overseas contractor of the U.S. Department of State (BaghdadInfoCenter@iom.int)	U.S. Embassy in Baghdad (IraqSIVapplication@state.gov)
Adjudicating Agency:	Department of Homeland Security/ US Citizenship and Immigration Service (DHS/USCIS)	U.S. Department of State/ Bureau of Consular Affairs, and Department of Homeland Security/the U.S Citizenship and Immigration Service (DHS/USCIS)
Who Can File:	USG/MNF-I translators; USG direct hires and contractors; employees of US-based media/non-gov't organizations employed after March 20, 2003, regardless of length of employment	Any Iraqi national who provides/provided "faithful and valuable" service to the USG while employed by or on behalf of the USG for at least one year after March 20, 2003
Qualifying Family Members:	Spouse; children (any age, any marital status) and their immediate family; parents; siblings and their immediate family*	Spouse and minor unmarried children
Persecution Claim:	Must demonstrate persecution or fear of persecution as a result of U.S. Government affiliation	Must show risk or have experienced serious threat as a result of U.S. Government affiliation
Required Forms to Initiate Application:	No required forms - only verifiable proof of employment	Letter of recommendation from employer and statement of risk
Required for US Travel:	None required	Valid G passport
Quota:	There is no annual "cap" for Iraqi refugees; the target for Fiscal Year 2008 is 12,000 Iraqi refugees	5,000 principal applicant visas per year for Fiscal Year 2008 through 2012 (cap does not apply to immediate family members)
Processing Time:	Expect 8-12 months for processing in Iraq	To be determined
Legal Status Granted:	After 12 months of residency, refugees are required to apply for adjustment of status to that of Permanent Resident Alien. After five years in the United States, refugees may apply for citizenship. Employment Authorization Documents are issued automatically and are generally received by refugees within a few weeks of arrival.	Beneficiaries are Legal Permanent Residents upon entry to U.S. and are authorized to work immediately.
Travel Docs Issued:	Refugees are issued special refugee travel documents; DHS permission required for international travel during the first year	Beneficiaries are issued immigrant visas in their passports. The immigrant visas are valid for entry to the U.S. for 6 months.
Benefits:	Refugees automatically receive State Department benefits and may qualify for other benefits through the Department of Health	Beneficiaries may elect to receive State Department benefits but must do so while still overseas ; beneficiaries may be eligible for

	may qualify for other benefits through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) upon arrival in the U.S.	other benefits through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) upon arrival in the U.S. regardless of whether or not they chose to receive State Department benefits
Travel Date:	Travel is booked by IOM	Beneficiaries can travel any time before the expiration of their visa if not electing to receive benefits; otherwise booked by IOM

* Immediate family includes spouse and minor unmarried children